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Chiral EFT for nuclear forces using the Gradient Flow Method

based on work done in collaboration with Hermann Krebs, e-Print: 2311.10893; 2312.13932

- The problem
- Solution: Chiral gradient flow + Path integral approach
- Summary and outlook







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The problem

The SMS-regularized chiral NN interactions Reinert, Krebs, EE, EPJA 54 (2018) 86; PRL 126 (2021) 092501

 $V_{1\pi}(q) = \frac{\alpha}{\vec{q}^2 + M_{\pi}^2} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}^2 + M_{\pi}^2}{\Lambda^2}} + \text{subtraction}, \quad V_{2\pi}(q) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{2M_{\pi}}^{\infty} d\mu \mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\vec{q}^2 + \mu^2} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}^2 + \mu^2}{2\Lambda^2}} + \text{subtractions}$

+ nonlocal (Gaussian) cutoff for contacts







Where are calculations beyond N²LO?

The problem

Use **DimReg** (or equivalent) to derive 3NFs from \mathscr{L}_{eff} , together with **Cutoff Regularization** in the Schrödinger equation. What about chiral symmetry?

Faddeev equation for 3N scattering:



 \Rightarrow mixing DimReg with Cutoff regularization breaks chiral symmetry EE, Krebs, Reinert '19

 \Rightarrow 3NF, 4NF & MECs beyond N²LO have to be re-derived using Cutoff Reg. (2NF ok at fixed M_{π})

Symmetry-preserving regularization

Hermann Krebs, EE, e-Print: 2312.13932

Want to regularize \mathscr{L}_{π} , $\mathscr{L}_{\pi N}$ in such a way that:

- the chiral and gauge symmetries are preserved,
- the regularized OPE potential has the SMS (Gaussian) cutoff,
- nuclear forces & currents are finite (DR still needed...) and regularized

Preliminaries

Effective Lagrangian for Goldstone bosons

Pions transform <u>nonlinearly</u> under SU(2)_L × SU(2)_R and via the adjoint irrep. of SU(2)_V (i.e., R = L):

$$U(\boldsymbol{\pi}) \to RUL^{\dagger}, \qquad U(\boldsymbol{\pi}) = \underbrace{1 + \frac{i}{F}\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \boldsymbol{\pi} - \frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}^2}{2F^2} - \alpha \frac{i}{F^3}\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \boldsymbol{\pi}\boldsymbol{\pi}^2 + \mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{\pi}^4)}_{\text{SU(2) matrices}}$$

st general parametrization of an SU(2) matrix in terms of π 's

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi}^{\mathrm{E}} = \frac{F^{2}}{4} \operatorname{Tr} \left[\underbrace{\left(\nabla_{\mu} U \right)^{\dagger} \nabla_{\mu} U - U^{\dagger} \chi - \chi^{\dagger} U}_{\chi = 2B(s+ip)} \right] = \frac{1}{2} \pi \cdot \left(-\partial^{2} + M^{2} \right) \pi^{2} + \dots$$

in Euclidean space

Effective Lagrangian for pions and nucleons

Generalization to N: $u(\boldsymbol{\pi}) := \sqrt{U}, \quad u \to RuK^{\dagger} = KuL^{\dagger}$ with $K(L, R, U) = \sqrt{LU^{\dagger}R^{\dagger}}R\sqrt{U}$ Define [ccwz '69] $N \to KN$ and introduce $u_{\mu} = iu^{\dagger} \nabla_{\mu} U u^{\dagger}, \ u_{\mu} \to K u_{\mu} K^{\dagger}, \ldots$ $\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{\mathrm{E}} = N^{\dagger} (D_0 + q u_{\mu} S_{\mu}) N + \dots$

First attempt: Higher-derivative regularization of $\mathscr{L}_{\pi}^{\mathrm{E}}$ Slavnov '71

Gradient flow

Gradient flows: methods for smoothing manifolds (e.g., Ricci flow used in the proof of the Poincaré conjecture)



Gradient flow as a regulator in field theory



Flow equation: $\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \phi(x,\tau) = -\frac{\delta S[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)}\Big|_{\phi(x) \to \phi(x,\tau)}$

subject to the boundary condition $\phi(x,0) = \phi(x)$

Free scalar field:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \partial_{\tau} - (\partial_{\mu}^{x}\partial_{\mu}^{x} - M^{2}) \end{bmatrix} \phi(x,\tau) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi(x,\tau) = \underbrace{\int d^{4}y \,\widetilde{G(x-y,\tau)} \phi(y)}_{\text{heat kernel}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tilde{\phi}(q,\tau) = e^{-\tau(q^{2}+M^{2})} \tilde{\phi}(q)$$

YM gradient flow Narayanan, Neuberger '06, Lüscher, Weisz '11: $\partial_{\tau}A_{\mu}(x,\tau) = D_{\nu}G_{\nu\mu}(x,\tau) \leftarrow \text{extensively used in LQCD}$

Chiral gradient flow Krebs, EE, 2312.13932

Generalize
$$U(x)$$
 to $W(x,\tau)$: $\partial_{\tau}W = -iw \underbrace{\frac{[D_{\mu}, w_{\mu}] + \frac{i}{2}\chi_{-}(\tau) - \frac{i}{4}\operatorname{Tr}\chi_{-}(\tau)}{\sqrt{W}}}_{\sqrt{W}}W(x,0) = U(x)$

We have proven $\forall \tau$: $W(x,\tau) \in SU(2), W(x,\tau) \rightarrow RW(x,\tau)L^{\dagger}$

Gradient flow for chiral interactions

unpublished work by DBK

But sometimes momentum cutoff regulators are preferred:

- Better behavior for nonperturbative, computational applications (eg, chiral nuclear forces)
- ...but violate chiral symmetry and can lead to problems

This talk: a way to avoid the latter's problems.

D. B. Kaplan ~ INT ~ 4/19/16

Solving the chiral gradient flow equation



$$\begin{bmatrix} \partial_{\tau} - (\partial_{\mu}^{x}\partial_{\mu}^{x} - M^{2}) \end{bmatrix} \phi^{(1)}(x,\tau) = 0 \\ \phi^{(1)}(x,0) = \pi(x) \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \phi^{(1)}(x,\tau) = \int d^{4}y \underbrace{\widetilde{G(x-y,\tau)}}_{\overline{G(x-y,\tau)}} \pi(y) \Rightarrow \widetilde{\phi}^{(1)}(q,\tau) = e^{-\tau(q^{2}+M^{2})} \widetilde{\pi}(q) \\ \text{SMS regulator for } \tau = 1/(2\Lambda^{2})$$

$$= \operatorname{RHS}_{b}(x,\tau)$$

$$[\partial_{\tau} - (\partial_{\mu}^{x}\partial_{\mu}^{x} - M^{2})]\phi_{b}^{(3)}(x,\tau) = (1 - 2\alpha)\partial_{\mu}\phi^{(1)} \cdot \partial_{\mu}\phi^{(1)}\phi_{b}^{(1)} - 4\alpha \partial_{\mu}\phi^{(1)} \cdot \phi^{(1)}\partial_{\mu}\phi_{b}^{(1)} + \frac{M^{2}}{2}(1 - 4\alpha)\phi^{(1)} \cdot \phi^{(1)}\phi_{b}^{(1)}$$

$$\phi_{b}^{(3)}(x,0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \phi_{b}^{(3)}(x,\tau) = \int^{\tau} ds \int d^{4}y \, G(x - y,\tau - s) \operatorname{RHS}_{b}(y,s)$$

$$J_0 = J$$

In momentum space, this solution takes the form:

$$\tilde{\phi}_{b}^{(3)}(q,\tau) = \int \prod_{i=1}^{3} \frac{d^{4}q_{i}}{(2\pi)^{4}} (2\pi)^{4} \delta^{4}(q-q_{1}-q_{2}-q_{3}) \underbrace{f_{\Lambda}(\{q_{i}\})}_{q_{1}^{2}+q_{2}^{2}+q_{3}^{2}-q^{2}+2M^{2}} \left[4\alpha \, q_{1} \cdot q_{3} - (1-2\alpha)q_{1} \cdot q_{2} + \frac{M^{2}}{2} (1-4\alpha) \right] \tilde{\pi}(q_{1}) \cdot \tilde{\pi}(q_{2}) \, \tilde{\pi}_{b}(q_{3}) \\ \frac{e^{-\tau(q^{2}+M^{2})} - e^{-\tau \sum_{j=1}^{3}(q_{j}^{2}+M^{2})}}{q_{1}^{2}+q_{2}^{2}+q_{3}^{2}-q^{2}+2M^{2}}$$

Gradient flow regularization of BChPT

- The pion Lagrangian $\mathscr{L}^{\mathrm{E}}_{\pi}$ is left unchanged
- Nucleons are <u>defined</u> to "live" at a fixed $\tau > 0$.

Remember, in the original formulation: $N \to KN$, where $K = \sqrt{LU^{\dagger}R^{\dagger}R}\sqrt{U}$ with $U \to RUL^{\dagger}$. Instead, we introduce $N(\tau)$ via $N \to KN\Big|_{U \to W(\tau)}$: χ -symmetry is preserved since $W \to RWL^{\dagger}$.

 $\Rightarrow \text{ BChPT using gradient flow regularization: } \mathcal{L}^{\mathrm{E}} = \mathcal{L}^{\mathrm{E}}_{\pi} + \mathcal{L}^{\mathrm{E}}_{\pi N}(\tau), \quad \mathcal{L}^{\mathrm{E}}_{\pi N}(\tau) = \mathcal{L}^{\mathrm{E}}_{\pi N}\Big|_{U \to W(\tau)}$

non-local (smeared) Lagrangian upon expressing in π 's



Smeared (non-local) theory in 4d



Chiral symmetry II: The 4N force

unregularized



the sum must be α -independent

Unregularized expression for this 4NF EE, EPJA 34 (2007):

$$V^{4N} = -\frac{g^4}{64F^6} \frac{\hat{O}_{[\sigma_i,\tau_i,\vec{q_i}]} = \tau_1 \cdot \tau_2 \tau_3 \cdot \tau_4 \, \vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q}_2 \, \vec{\sigma}_3 \cdot \vec{q}_3 \, \vec{\sigma}_4 \cdot \vec{q}_4}{(\vec{q}_2^{\,2} + M^2)(\vec{q}_3^{\,2} + M^2)(\vec{q}_4^{\,2} + M^2)} \, \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_{12} + \frac{g^4}{128F^6} \frac{\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_1 \, \hat{O}_{[\sigma_i,\tau_i,\vec{q}_i]}}{(\vec{q}_1^{\,2} + M^2)(\vec{q}_2^{\,2} + M^2)(\vec{q}_3^{\,2} + M^2)(\vec{q}_4^{\,2} + M^2)} (M^2 + \vec{q}_{12}^{\,2}) + 23 \text{ perm.}$$

Chiral symmetry II: The 4N force



⁽reduces to the unregularized result in the $\Lambda \to \infty$ limit)

- per construction, no exponentially growing factors
- nuclear forces and currents are sufficiently regularized
 (some purely pionic loops are divergent and require e.g. DR)



Nuclear interactions from path integral

Hermann Krebs, EE, e-Print: 2311.10893

The considered 4NFs were calculated using Feynman diagrams. But more generally,

Potential
$$\neq$$
 Feynman diagram



 \Rightarrow impractical for *regularized* Lagrangians that involve $e^{-\tau(-\partial_x^2+M^2)}\pi(x)$

 \Rightarrow new method to derive nuclear interactions using the path integral approach

Warm-up exercise

Pion-less EFT:

$$\mathcal{L} = N^{\dagger} \left[i \partial_0 + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^2}{2m_N} \right] N - \frac{C_S}{2} (N^{\dagger} N)^2 + \dots$$
$$\Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{A}_{\text{tree}} = \left[C_0 + C_2 (\vec{p}^2 + \vec{p}'^2) + \dots \right]$$

Scattering amplitude to 1 loop:

$$-i\mathcal{A}_{1-\text{loop}} = \int \frac{d^4l}{(2\pi)^4} \left[C_0 + C_2(\vec{p}^2 + \vec{l}^2) + \ldots \right] \frac{1}{\left(\frac{E}{2} + l_0 - \frac{\vec{l}^2}{2m_N} + i\epsilon\right) \left(\frac{E}{2} - l_0 - \frac{\vec{l}^2}{2m_N} + i\epsilon\right)} \left[C_0 + \ldots \right]$$
$$= -i\int \frac{d^3l}{(2\pi)^3} \left[C_0 + C_2(\vec{p}^2 + \vec{l}^2) + \ldots \right] \frac{1}{E - \frac{\vec{l}^2}{m_N} + i\epsilon} \left[C_0 + (\vec{l}^2 + \vec{p}'^2) \ldots \right]$$

All l_0 -integrals factorize \Rightarrow Lippmann-Schwinger eq. $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{V} + \mathcal{V} G_0 \mathcal{A}$ with $\mathcal{V} = -\mathcal{L}_{int}$



But l_0 -integrals do not factorize for pions due to l_0 -dependence of π -propagators...



Nuclear interactions from path integral

Regularized toy model:
$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{\mathrm{E}} = N^{\dagger} \left[\partial_{0} - \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{2m} - \frac{g}{2F} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \, \boldsymbol{\pi} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \right] N + \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\pi} \cdot \left(-\partial^{2} + M^{2} \right) e^{\frac{-\partial^{2} + M^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}} \boldsymbol{\pi}$$

Nonlocal action S_N^E after integrating out pion fields (Gaussian):

$$Z[\eta^{\dagger},\eta] = \int DN^{\dagger}DND\boldsymbol{\pi} \, e^{-S_{\pi N}^{\mathrm{E}} + \int d^{4}x \left[\eta^{\dagger}N + N^{\dagger}\eta\right]} = A \int DN^{\dagger}DN \, e^{-S_{N}^{\mathrm{E}} + \int d^{4}x \left[\eta^{\dagger}N + N^{\dagger}\eta\right]}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{non-static regularized pion propagator}}_{\text{non-static regularized pion propagator}}$$
Where $S_{N}^{\mathrm{E}} = \underbrace{N_{x}^{\dagger} \left[\partial_{0} - \frac{\vec{\nabla}_{x}^{2}}{2m}\right]N_{x}}_{\text{integration over } d^{4}x \text{ not shown}} + \underbrace{\frac{g^{2}}{8F^{2}} \left[N^{\dagger}\vec{\sigma} \,\boldsymbol{\tau}N\right]_{x_{1}} \cdot \left[\vec{\nabla}_{x_{1}} \otimes \vec{\nabla}_{x_{1}} \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{E}}(x_{1} - x_{2})\right] \cdot \left[N^{\dagger}\vec{\sigma} \,\boldsymbol{\tau}N\right]_{x_{2}}}_{\text{integration over } d^{4}x \text{ not shown}}$

Rewrite the pion propagator to the static one plus rest:

$$\Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{E}}(x) = \int \frac{d^{4}q}{(2\pi)^{4}} e^{iq \cdot x} \frac{e^{-\frac{q_{0}^{2} + \vec{q}^{2} + M^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}}}{q_{0}^{2} + \vec{q}^{2} + M^{2}} = \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{S}}(x) + \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{E}}(x) - \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{S}}(x) = \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{S}}(x) + \partial_{0}^{2} \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{ES}}(x) - \int \frac{d^{4}q}{(2\pi)^{4}} \frac{e^{iq \cdot x}}{q_{0}^{2}} [\tilde{\Delta}_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{E}}(q) - \tilde{\Delta}_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{S}}(\vec{q})]$$

Nucleon field redefinition: $N_x = \tilde{N}_x - \frac{g^2}{8F^2} \tau \vec{\sigma} \tilde{N}_x \cdot \left[\vec{\nabla}_x \otimes \vec{\nabla}_x \partial_0 \Delta^{\text{ES}}_{\Lambda} (x - x_2) \right] \cdot \left[\tilde{N}^{\dagger} \vec{\sigma} \tau \tilde{N} \right]_{x_2}, \quad N_x^{\dagger} = \dots$

integration over d^4x_2 not shown

$$\Rightarrow S_{\tilde{N}}^{\rm E} = \tilde{N}_{x}^{\dagger} \left[\partial_{0} - \frac{\dot{\nabla}_{x}^{2}}{2m} \right] \tilde{N}_{x} + \frac{g^{2}}{8F^{2}} \left[\tilde{N}^{\dagger} \vec{\sigma} \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \tilde{N} \right]_{x_{1}} \cdot \left[\vec{\nabla}_{x_{1}} \otimes \vec{\nabla}_{x_{1}} \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\rm S}(x_{1} - x_{2}) \right] \cdot \left[\tilde{N}^{\dagger} \vec{\sigma} \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \tilde{N} \right]_{x_{2}} + S_{2N}^{1/m} + S_{3N}$$

Nuclear interactions from path integral

To summarize:

$$Z[\eta^{\dagger},\eta] = \int DN^{\dagger}DND\boldsymbol{\pi} \, e^{-S_{\pi N}^{\mathrm{E}} + \int d^{4}x \left[\eta^{\dagger}N + N^{\dagger}\eta\right]} = \dots = A \int D\tilde{N}^{\dagger}D\tilde{N} \, e^{-S_{\tilde{N}}^{\mathrm{E}} + \int d^{4}x \left[\eta^{\dagger}\tilde{N} + \tilde{N}^{\dagger}\eta\right]}$$

where the many-body action is now instantaneous (up to higher-order corrections):

$$S_{\tilde{N}}^{\mathrm{E}} = \tilde{N}_{x}^{\dagger} \left[\partial_{0} - \frac{\vec{\nabla}_{x}^{2}}{2m} \right] \tilde{N}_{x} + \frac{g^{2}}{8F^{2}} \left[\tilde{N}^{\dagger} \vec{\sigma} \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \tilde{N} \right]_{x_{1}} \cdot \left[\vec{\nabla}_{x_{1}} \otimes \vec{\nabla}_{x_{1}} \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{S}}(x_{1} - x_{2}) \right] \cdot \left[\tilde{N}^{\dagger} \vec{\sigma} \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \tilde{N} \right]_{x_{2}} + S_{2\mathrm{N}}^{1/m} + S_{3\mathrm{N}}$$

 $\Rightarrow \text{ read out } V_{\text{NN}} \text{ directly from the action: } V_{2\text{N}}^{\Lambda}(\vec{x}_{12}) = \frac{g^2}{4F^2} \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \left(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \left(\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \Delta_{\Lambda}^{\text{S}}(\vec{x}_{12})$

On the other hand, to order g^2 : \Rightarrow something is missing...



$$\int DN^{\dagger}DN \ e^{(...)} = \int D\tilde{N}^{\dagger}D\tilde{N} \ \det \left[\mathbf{J}_{N,N^{\dagger}}(\tilde{N},\tilde{N}^{\dagger}) \right] e^{(...)} = \int D\tilde{N}^{\dagger}D\tilde{N} \ e^{(...) + \int d^{4}x \tilde{N}_{x}^{\dagger} \Sigma_{\Lambda} \tilde{N}_{x} + ...}$$
with $\Sigma_{\Lambda} = -\frac{3g^{2}}{8F^{2}} \int \frac{d^{3}p}{(2\pi)^{3}} \vec{p}^{2} \frac{e^{-\frac{\vec{p}^{2} + M^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}}}{\vec{p}^{2} + M^{2}} = -\frac{3g^{2}}{64\pi^{3/2}F^{2}} \Lambda^{3} + \frac{9g^{2}M^{2}}{64\pi^{3/2}F^{2}} \Lambda - \frac{3g^{2}M^{3}}{32\pi F^{2}} + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-1})$

the leading non-analytic contribution to m_N

Summary

New formulation of nuclear chiral EFT:

- gradient flow regularized version of baryon ChPT
- path integral method to reduce QFT to QM via non-local field redefinitions (loop contributions emerge from the functional determinant)
- ⇒ regularized 3N, 4N forces and currents, which are consistent with the SMS NN potentials & respect chiral and gauge symmetries Hermann Krebs, EE, in progress

Further ongoing work:

- $-\pi$ N scattering inside the Mandelstam triangle using GF HBChPT (LECs)
- NN potential and chiral extrapolations
- Hyper-nuclear interactions

Thank you for your attention

The 11th International Workshop on Chiral Dynamics

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The 11th International Workshop on Chiral Dynamics (CD2024) will take place August 26-30, 2024 at the Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. This series of workshops started at MIT in 1994 and brings together theorists and experimentalists every three years to discuss the status, progress and challenges in the physics of low-energy QCD, Goldstone Boson dynamics, meson-baryon Interactions, few-body physics, lattice QCD and ChPT. Previous workshops took place in Pisa (2015), Durham, NC (2018) and Beijing (2021).



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